

Paper Tower Challenge



Define the problem

- Want students to collaborate with one another in a healthy manner to accomplish a task.

Solution Options

- Students must erect a tower using only pieces of paper.
- There are two goals for the project
 1. To see how tall the group can make the tower
 2. To work together to solve this problem

Plan the project

- Constraints
- Students have 5 minutes to work
- Structure needs to be free standing
- Measurement is to be done only after the time has elapsed

Execute the Plan

- Put yourself in groups or no more than 5 people
- You will be given 30 pieces of paper with which to work
- Paper can be torn, crumbled, manipulated in any way the group sees fit

Monitor Progress

- Roles for group members
- Manager – makes sure everyone is heard
- Timekeeper – keeps track of the time left
- Quality control – makes sure the tower is ready to be measured
- Engineer – oversees the construction of the group's plan
- Spokesperson – reports out for the group during reflection

Close the Project

- Questions to consider (1 minute to discuss)

1. Was the group satisfied with the way they worked together?
2. What would the group have changed?
3. Was the group satisfied with their final product?
4. What would the group have changed or improved?